

## What is claimed is:

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1. A storage service method, comprising:  
monitoring a storage capacity of a data  
5 accumulation unit of a user terminal device; and  
transferring data of the data accumulation  
unit to a storage service providing device through  
a network such that the free capacity cannot be  
smaller than a predetermined value.
- 10 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein:  
said user terminal device detects whether or  
not data is deleted or updated; and  
when data is deleted or updated, the data  
15 before deletion or update is transferred to the  
storage service providing device.
- 20 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein:  
a use frequency of data in the user terminal  
device is determined; and  
data is sequentially transferred to the  
storage service providing device in order from  
lowest use frequency such that the free capacity of  
the data accumulation unit cannot be smaller than  
25 the predetermined value.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein:  
policy information defining a process of data  
is added to the data; and

5 when said data is transferred from the data  
accumulation unit to the storage service providing  
device, the data to be transferred is selected  
according to the policy information.

10 5. A storage service method, comprising:  
determining whether or not data is deleted or  
updated in a user terminal device;  
in case data is deleted or updated,  
transferring the data before deletion or update  
15 from the user terminal device to a storage service  
providing device; and  
storing the transferred data in the storage  
service providing device.

20 6. A storage service user terminal device,  
comprising:  
a data accumulation unit accumulating data;  
a free capacity monitor unit monitoring a free  
capacity of said data accumulation unit; and  
25 a data transfer unit transferring the data of

said data accumulation unit to a storage service providing unit through a network such that the free capacity of said data accumulation unit cannot be smaller than a predetermined value based on a  
5 monitor result of said free capacity monitor unit.

7. The device according to claim 6, further comprising

a detection unit detecting whether or not data  
10 is deleted or updated, wherein

when said detection unit detects that data is deleted or updated, said data transfer unit transfers the data before deletion or update to said storage service providing device.  
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8. The device according to claim 6, further comprising

a use frequency determination unit determining a use frequency of data accumulated in said data  
20 accumulation unit, wherein

said data transfer unit sequentially transfers the data in order from lowest use frequency based on a determination result of said use frequency determination unit.  
25

said data accumulation unit stores data with policy information defining a process of the data added to the data; and

10 10. The device according to claim 6, further  
comprising

15           when said data determination unit determines  
that the data has been transferred to the storage  
service providing device, said data transfer unit  
downloads the data from the storage service  
providing device.

11. The device according to claim 6, further comprising

25           said data transfer unit selects data of an

12 The device according to claim 6, further  
comprising

13. The device according to claim 6, wherein  
said data transfer unit comprises an upload  
15 unit and a download unit respectively uploading the  
data in said data accumulation unit into said  
storage service providing device when said free  
capacity of said data accumulation unit is close to  
the predetermined value and downloading necessary  
20 data from said storage service providing device.

14. A storage service providing device,  
comprising:  
a reception unit receiving data to be uploaded  
25 from a user terminal device through a network to

reserve a free capacity such that a free capacity of a data accumulation unit of the user terminal device cannot be smaller than a predetermined value;

- 5           a data accumulation unit storing data;
- a data read unit reading data when the user terminal device requests the data to be downloaded;
- and
- a transmission unit downloading the data read
- 10       from said data accumulation unit into the user terminal device.

15. The device according to claim 14, further comprising:

- 15           a difference generation unit generating a difference between the data received by said reception unit and past data stored in said data accumulation unit; and
- data storage unit storing the difference data
- 20       generated by said difference generation unit in said data accumulation unit.

16. A computer-readable storage medium storing a storage service program <sup>compr. by computer-readable code</sup> used to direct a computer
- 25       to perform the process comprising:

17. The storage medium according to claim 16,  
wherein:  
10 it is determined whether or not data is  
deleted or updated in the user terminal device; and  
when data is deleted or updated, the data  
before deletion or update is transferred from the  
user terminal device to the storage service  
15 providing device.